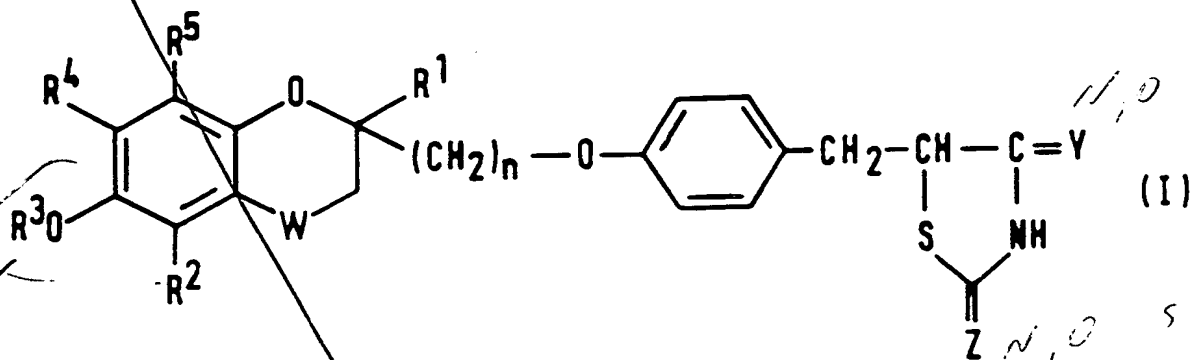


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CLAIMS

1. Compounds of formula (I):



[in which:

R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or a C_1 - C_5 alkyl group;

R^3 represents hydrogen, a C_1 - C_6 aliphatic acyl group, an alicyclic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group, a heterocyclic acyl group, an araliphatic acyl group, a $(C_1$ - C_6 alkoxy)carbonyl group or an aralkyloxy carbonyl group;

R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen, a C_1 - C_5 alkyl group or a C_1 - C_5 alkoxy group, or R^4 and R^5 together represent a C_1 - C_4 alkylendioxy group;

n is 1, 2 or 3;

W represents the $-CH_2-$, $>CO$ or $>CH-OR^6$ group (in

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which R^6 represents any one of the atoms or groups defined for R^3 and may be the same as or different from R^3 ; and

Y and Z are the same or different and each represents the oxygen atom or the imino group] and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. Compounds as claimed in Claim 1, in which: R^3 represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_6 aliphatic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group or a heterocyclic acyl group.

3. Compounds as claimed in Claim 1, in which: Y represents an oxygen atom; R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_5 alkyl group; R^3 represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_6 aliphatic acyl group, ^{one of said groups} an aromatic acyl group or a pyridinecarbonyl group; and R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_5 alkyl group or a C_1 or C_2 alkoxy group.

4. Compounds as claimed in Claim 3, in which: R^1 , R^2 , R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_5 alkyl group; n is 1 or 2; and W represents the $-CH_2-$ or $>CO$ group.

5. Compounds as claimed in Claim 4, in which R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_5 aliphatic acyl group, or the

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benzoyl or nicotinoyl group.

6. Compounds as claimed in Claim 5, in which: R^1 and R^4 are the same or different and each represents a C_{1-5} alkyl group; R^2 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents the hydrogen atom or the methyl group; and R^3 represents hydrogen or a C_{1-4} aliphatic acyl group.

7. Compounds as claimed in Claim 1, in which: W represents the $-CH_2-$ or $>CO$ group; Y and Z both represent oxygen atoms; n is 1 or 2; R^1 and R^4 are the same or different and each represents a C_{1-4} alkyl group; R^2 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents the hydrogen atom or the methyl group; and R^3 represents hydrogen or a C_{1-4} aliphatic acyl group.

8. Compounds as claimed in Claim 7, in which n is 1.

9. Compounds as claimed in Claim 7 or Claim 8, in which W represents the $-CH_2-$ group.

10. Compounds as claimed in Claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-yl)-

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methoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(2-ethyl-6-hydroxy-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-[2-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-yl)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-[2-(7-t-butyl-6-hydroxy-2-methylchroman-2-yl)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-[2-(6-hydroxy-7,8-dimethoxy-2,5-dimethylchroman-2-yl)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,7-dimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2-isobutyl-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

5-[4-(7-t-butyl-6-hydroxy-2-methylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

5-[4-(2-ethyl-6-hydroxy-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,7-dimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

5-[4-(6-acetoxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-benzoyloxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-butyryloxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-6-nicotinoyloxychroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(7-t-butyl-6-hydroxy-2-methyl-4-oxochroman-2-yl-

methoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione
9

P1 5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2-isobutyl-5,7,8-trimethyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione
8 9

P1 5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one
6 9

P1 5-[4-(7-t-butyl-6-hydroxy-2-methyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one
9

P1 5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2-isobutyl-5,7,8-trimethyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one
8

P1 5-[4-(6-acetoxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione
8 9

P1 5-[4-(6-acetoxy-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one
8 9 ✓

P1 5-[4-[2-(6-acetoxy-7-t-butyl-2-methylchroman-2-yl)ethoxy]benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one
SS 8 9 54 ✓

P1 5-[4-[2-(6-acetoxy-7,8-dimethoxy-2,5-dimethylchroman-2-yl)ethoxy]benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one
SS 8 9 54

PS and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

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11. Compounds as claimed in Claim 10, selected from the group consisting of:

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)-benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(2-ethyl-6-hydroxy-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-[2-(7-t-butyl-6-hydroxy-2-methylchroman-2-yl)-ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2-isobutyl-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-acetoxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)-benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

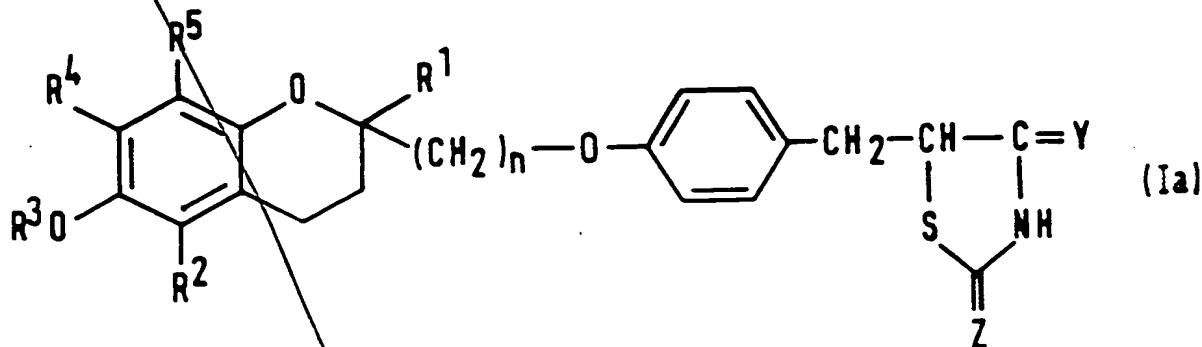
5-[4-(6-butyryloxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(7-t-butyl-6-hydroxy-2-methyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

12. Compounds of formula (Ia):



[in which:

R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or a C_1 - C_5 alkyl group;
 R^3 represents hydrogen, a C_1 - C_6 aliphatic acyl group, an alicyclic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group, a heterocyclic acyl group, an araliphatic acyl group, a (C_1 - C_6 alkoxy)carbonyl group or an aralkyloxy-carbonyl group;

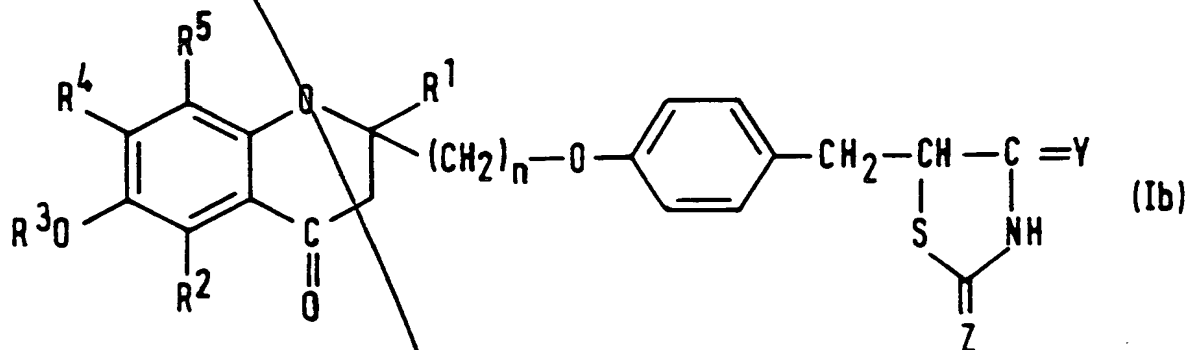
R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen, a C_1 - C_5 alkyl group or a C_1 - C_5 alkoxy group, or R^4 and R^5 together represent a C_1 - C_4 alkylenedioxy group;

n is 1, 2 or 3; and

Y and Z are the same or different and each represents the oxygen atom or the imino group]

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

13. Compounds of formula (Ib):



[in which:

R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or a C_1 - C_5 alkyl group;
 R^3 represents hydrogen, a C_1 - C_6 aliphatic acyl group, an alicyclic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group, a heterocyclic acyl group, an araliphatic acyl group, a $(C_1$ - C_6 alkoxy)carbonyl group or an aralkyloxycarbonyl group;

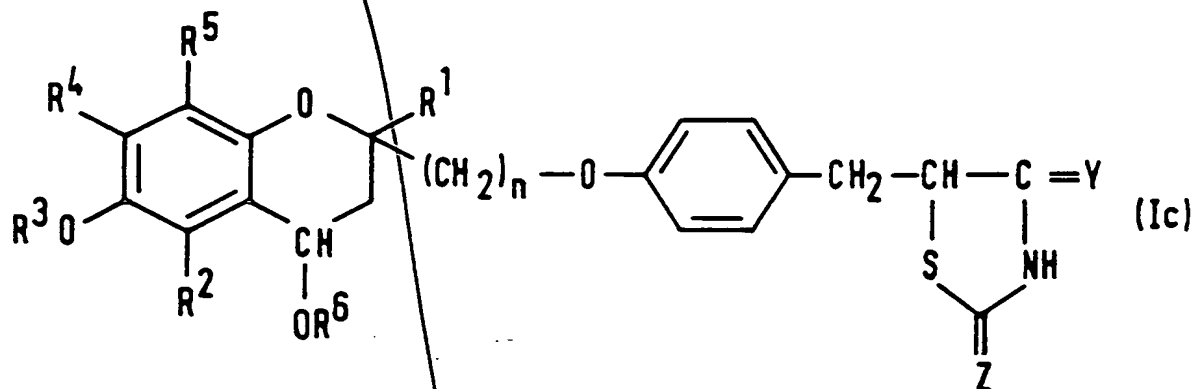
R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen, a C_1 - C_5 alkyl group or a C_1 - C_5 alkoxy group, or R^4 and R^5 together represent a C_1 - C_4 alkylendioxy group;

n is 1, 2 or 3; and

Y and Z are the same or different and each represents the oxygen atom or the imino group]

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

14. Compounds of formula (Ic):



[in which:

R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_5 alkyl group;

R^3 represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_6 aliphatic acyl group, an alicyclic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group, a heterocyclic acyl group, an araliphatic acyl group, a (C_1-C_6) alkoxy carbonyl group or an aralkyloxycarbonyl group;

R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_5 alkyl group or a C_1-C_5 alkoxy group, or R^4 and R^5 together represent a C_1-C_4 alkylendioxy group;

n is 1, 2 or 3;

R^6 represents any one of the atoms or groups defined for R^3 and may be the same as or different from R^3 ;

and

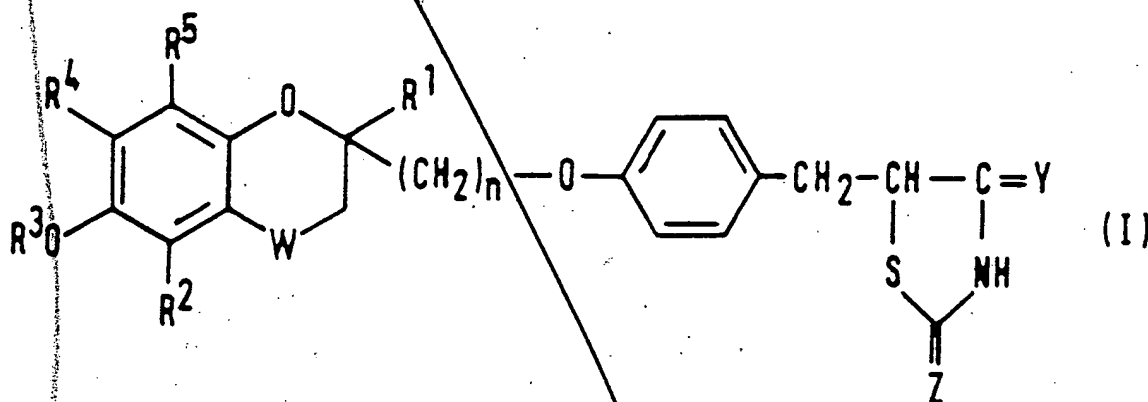
Y and Z are the same or different and each represents

Sub 22
the oxygen atom of the imino group]
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

22 ¹⁹ 15. Compounds as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 12, which are salts with cations.

23 ¹⁹ 16. Compounds as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 12, in the form of the sodium salt.

Sub 23
17. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of hyperlipaemia or hyperglycaemia, which comprises at least one active compound in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein said active compound is selected from compounds of formula (I):



[in which:

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R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_5 alkyl group; R^3 represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_6 aliphatic acyl group, an alicyclic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group, a heterocyclic acyl group, an araliphatic acyl group, a (C_1-C_6 alkoxy)carbonyl group or an aralkyloxy carbonyl group;

R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_5 alkyl group or a C_1-C_5 alkoxy group, or R^4 and R^5 together represent a C_1-C_4 alkylenedioxy group;

n is 1, 2 or 3;

W represents the $-CH_2-$, $>CO$ or $>CH-OR^6$ group (in which R^6 represents any one of the atoms or groups defined for R^3 and may be the same as or different from R^3); and

Y and Z are the same or different and each represents the oxygen atom or the imino group] and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

18. Compositions as claimed in Claim 17, in which: R^3 represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_6 aliphatic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group or a heterocyclic acyl group.

26 15. Compositions as claimed in claim ²⁴ 11, in which: Y represents an oxygen atom; R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_5

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alkyl group; R^3 represents hydrogen, a C_{1-6} aliphatic acyl group, ^{one of said groups} an aromatic acyl group, or a pyridinecarbonyl group; and R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen, a C_{1-5} alkyl group or a C_1 or C_2 alkoxy group.

27 ~~26~~. Compositions as claimed in ~~claim 18~~²⁶, in which: R^1 , R^2 , R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or a C_{1-5} alkyl group; n is 1 or 2; and W represents the $-CH_2-$ or $>CO$ group.

28 ~~27~~. Compositions as claimed in ~~claim 20~~²⁷, in which R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-5} aliphatic acyl group, or the benzoyl or nicotinoyl group.

29 ~~28~~. Compositions as claimed in ~~claim 21~~²⁸, in which: R^1 and R^4 are the same or different and each represents a C_{1-5} alkyl group; R^2 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents the hydrogen atom or the methyl group; and R^3 represents hydrogen or a C_{1-4} aliphatic acyl group.

30 ~~29~~. Compositions as claimed in ~~claim 22~~²⁹, in which: W represents the $-CH_2-$ or $>CO$ group; Y and Z both represent oxygen atoms; n is 1 or 2; R^1 and R^4 are the same or different and each represents a C_{1-4} alkyl group; R^2 and R^5 are the same or different and

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each represents the hydrogen atom or the methyl group;
and R^3 represents hydrogen or a C_{1-C_4} aliphatic
acyl group.

✓ 31 ~~24~~. Compositions as claimed in Claim ~~23~~³⁰, in which n is
1.

32 ~~25~~. Compositions as claimed in Claim ~~23~~³⁰ or Claim ~~24~~¹⁷, in
which W represents the $-CH_2-$ group.

33 ~~26~~. Compositions as claimed in Claim ~~27~~²⁴, wherein said
active compound is selected from the group consisting of:

P1 5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-yl-
methoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

P2 5-[4-(2-ethyl-6-hydroxy-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-yl-
methoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

P3 5-[4-(6-hydroxy-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)-
benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione ✓

P4 5-[4-[2-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-yl-
ethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

P5 5-[4-[2-(7-t-butyl-6-hydroxy-2-methylchroman-2-yl-
ethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

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PI 5-[4-[2-(6-hydroxy-7,8-dimethoxy-2,5-dimethyl-
^{SS 8}chroman-2-yl)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

PI 5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,7-dimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)-
⁸benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione ✓

PI 5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2-isobutyl-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-
⁸2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

PI 5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-yl-
⁸methoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

PI 5-[4-(7-t-butyl-6-hydroxy-2-methylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)-
⁸benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one ✓

PI 5-[4-(2-ethyl-6-hydroxy-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-
⁸ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

PI 5-[4-(6-hydroxy-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)-
⁸benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one ✓

PI 5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,7-dimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)-
⁸benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one ✓

PI 5-[4-(6-acetoxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)-
⁸benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione ✓

5-[4-(6-benzoyloxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-butyryloxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-6-nicotinoyloxychroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(7-t-butyl-6-hydroxy-2-methyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2-isobutyl-5,7,8-trimethyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

5-[4-(7-t-butyl-6-hydroxy-2-methyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2-isobutyl-5,7,8-trimethyl-4-oxochroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

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5-[4-(6-acetoxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-4-oxochroman-2-yl-methoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-acetoxy-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

5-[4-[2-(6-acetoxy-7-t-butyl-2-methylchroman-2-yl)ethoxy]benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

5-[4-[2-(6-acetoxy-7,8-dimethoxy-2,5-dimethylchroman-2-yl)ethoxy]benzyl]-2-iminothiazolidin-4-one

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

34²⁴/₂₁. Compositions as claimed in ~~claim 11~~²⁴, wherein said active compound is selected from the group consisting of:

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(2-ethyl-6-hydroxy-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-[2-(7-t-butyl-6-hydroxy-2-methylchroman-2-yl)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2-isobutyl-5,7,8-trimethylchroman-

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2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-acetoxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-ylmethoxy)-
benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione ✓

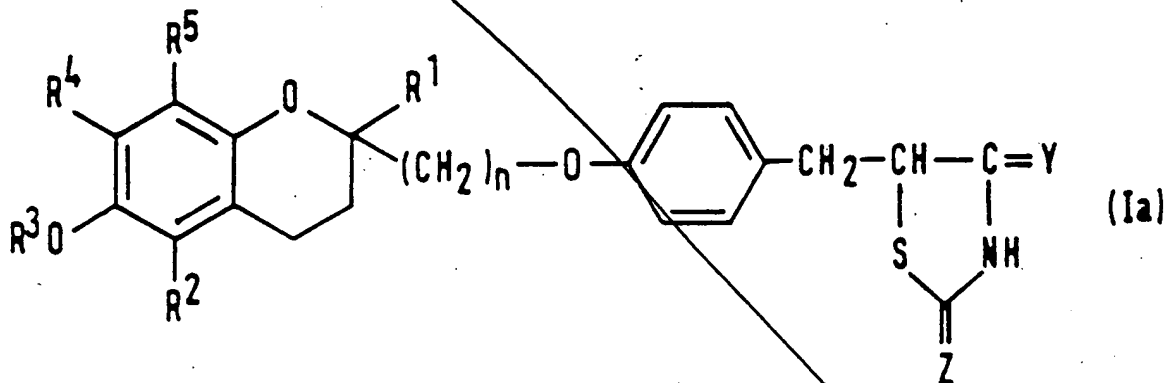
5-[4-(6-butyryloxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-yl-
methoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-4-oxochroman-2-yl-
methoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(7-t-butyl-6-hydroxy-2-methyl-4-oxochroman-2-yl-
methoxy)benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

28. Compositions as claimed in Claim 17, in which said
active compound is selected from compounds of formula
(Ia):



claims
35-37

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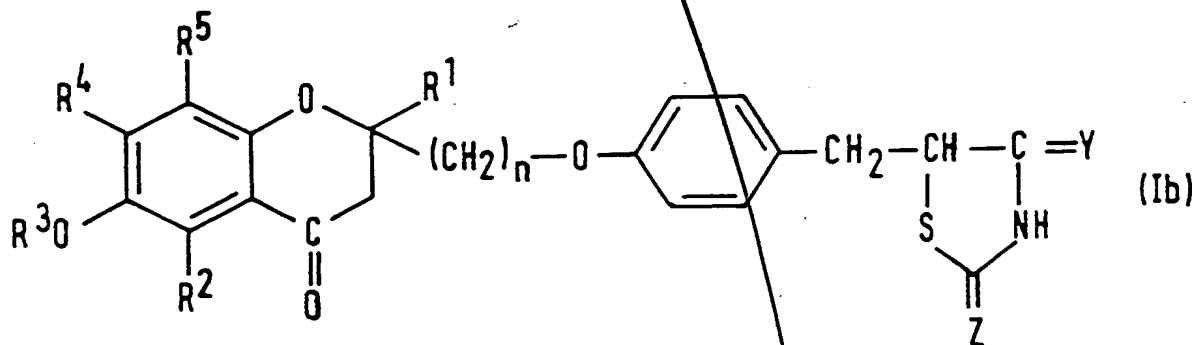
[in which:

but not
 R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_5 alkyl group; R^3 represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_6 aliphatic acyl group, an alicyclic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group, a heterocyclic acyl group, an araliphatic acyl group, a (C_1-C_6 alkoxy)carbonyl group or an aralkyloxycarbonyl group; R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_5 alkyl group or a C_1-C_5 alkoxy group, or R^4 and R^5 together represent a C_1-C_4 alkylenedioxy group; n is 1, 2 or 3;

and

Y and Z are the same or different and each represents the oxygen atom or the imino group]
 and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

29. Compositions as claimed in Claim 17, in which said active compound is selected from compounds of formula (Ib):



[in which:

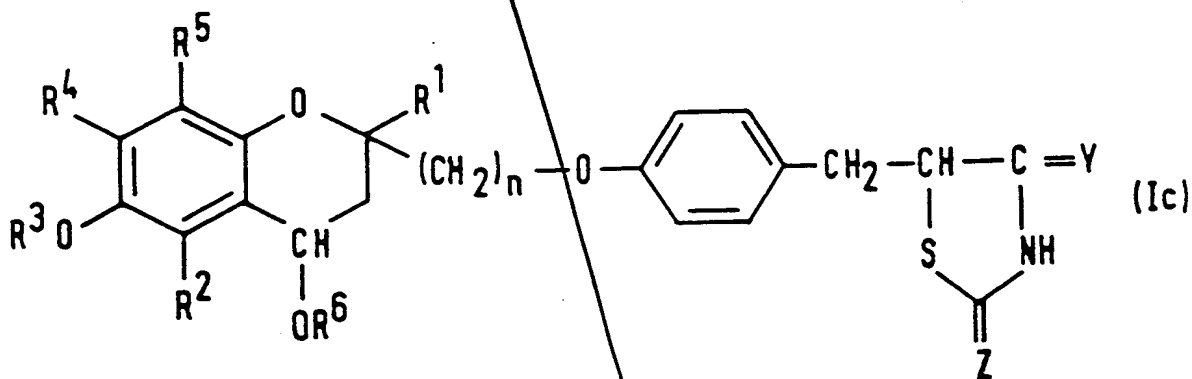
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R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_5 alkyl group; R^3 represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_6 aliphatic acyl group, an alicyclic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group, a heterocyclic acyl group, an araliphatic acyl group, a (C_1-C_6 alkoxy)carbonyl group or an aralkyloxycarbonyl group; R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_5 alkyl group or a C_1-C_5 alkoxy group, or R^4 and R^5 together represent a C_1-C_4 alkylenedioxy group; n is 1, 2 or 3;

and

Y and Z are the same or different and each represents the oxygen atom or the imino group] and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

30. Compositions as claimed in Claim 17, in which said active compound is selected from compounds of formula (Ic):



[in which:

*Sub
add*

R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_5 alkyl group; R^3 represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_6 aliphatic acyl group, an alicyclic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group, a heterocyclic acyl group, an araliphatic acyl group, a (C_1-C_6 alkoxy)carbonyl group or an aralkyloxycarbonyl group; R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen, a C_1-C_5 alkyl group or a C_1-C_5 alkoxy group, or R^4 and R^5 together represent a C_1-C_4 alkylenedioxy group; n is 1, 2 or 3;

R^6 represents any one of the atoms or groups defined for R^3 and may be the same as or different from R^3 ; and

Y and Z are the same or different and each represents the oxygen atom or the imino group]

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

38 31. Compositions as claimed in ~~Claim 17~~²⁴ or ~~Claim 28~~³⁵, wherein said active compound is in the form of a salt with a cation.

39 32. Compositions as claimed in ~~Claim 17~~²⁴ or ~~Claim 28~~³⁵, wherein said active compound is in the form of the sodium salt.

*add
25*

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